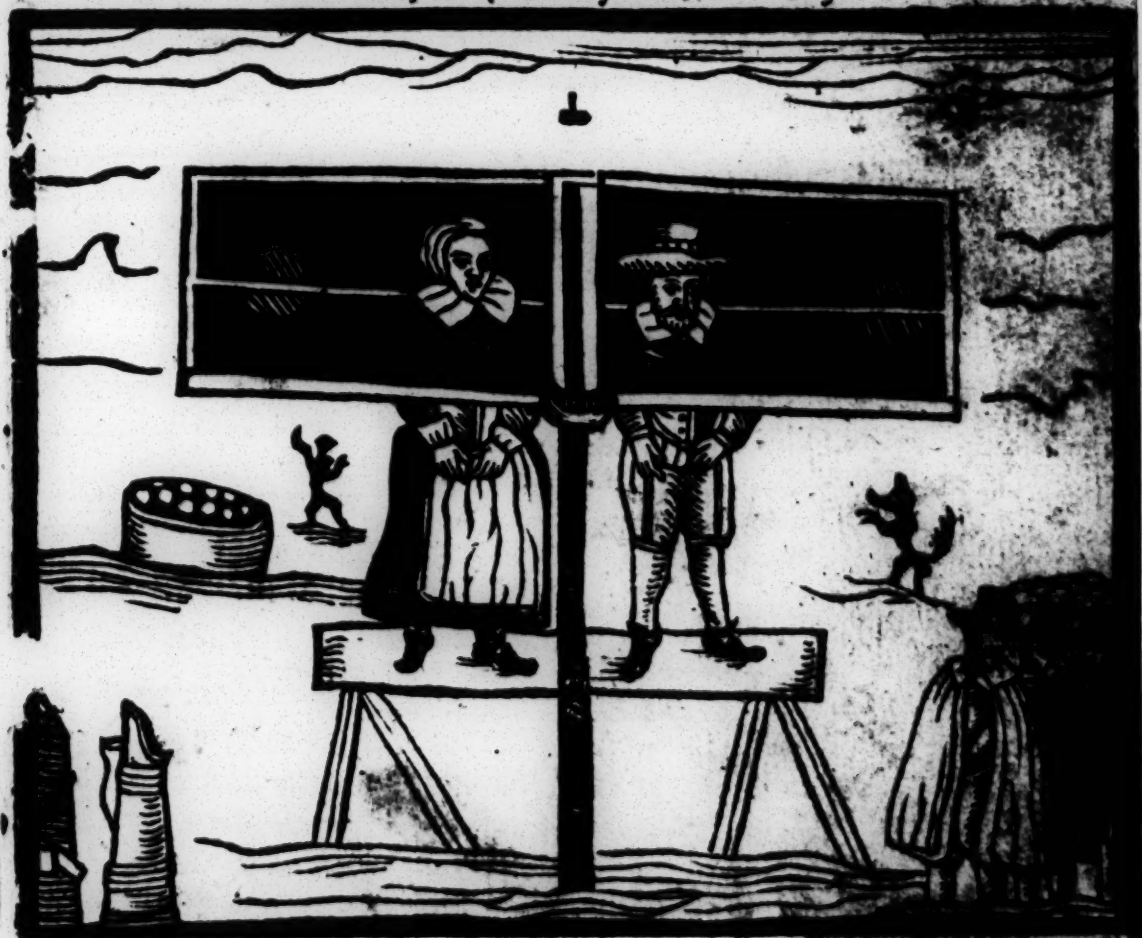
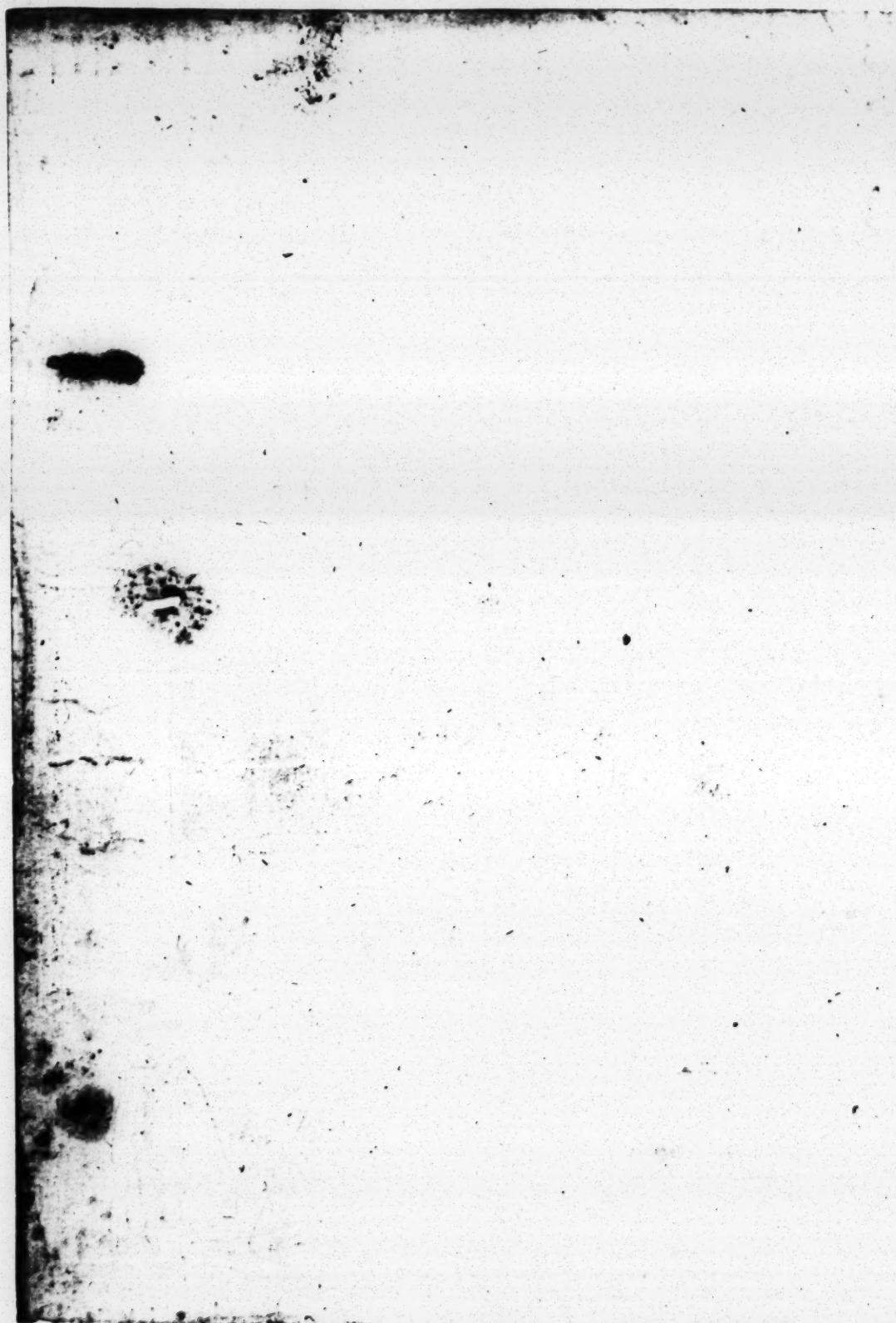


**The leuerall Notorious and
lewd Coufnages of I O H N V V E S T,
and A L I C E V V E S T, falsely called the
King and Queene of Fayries.**

Practised very lately both in this Citie, and many
places neere adioyning, to the impouerishing of many simple
people, as well Men as Women: Who were Arraigned and Conuicted
*for the same, at the Sessions House in the Old Bayly, the 14. of
Ianuarie, this present yeare, 1 6 1 3.*



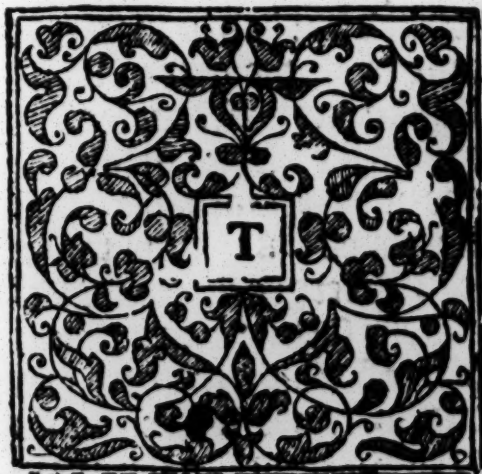
Printed at London for Edward Marchant, and are to be sold



The feuerall notorious and lewd
 Cousonages of *John West*, and *Alice West*,
 falsely called the King and Queene of Fayries, pra-
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 ons house in the Old Baily, the
 14 of Ianuary this present
 yeare. 1613.

CHAP. I.

The lewd cousonages of *John West*, and *Alice West*,
 falsely called the King and Queene of Fayries.



The hot Suane
 after the ouer-
 flow of Nilus,
 engendred not
 more draunges
 and vgly imper-
 fect monsters in
 Egypt, then this
 age doth im-
 stures, in and
 about the Citie
 of London: no cousonage is left vnpractised,

The confounding tricks of the

no cheat vnattempted, no meanes to deceiue vnaffected, insomuch that the suburbs in some places may be compared to a schoole of counsages, and a mart of vheard of abuses, of which every succeeding month brgets sundrie of the newest and last edition, every one struing to exceed another in craft and subtlety. what straine of inuention stretcht to the highest key of subornation, what almost incredible forgeries, without bound limil or dimension, what degree of iugling, counterfetting, what fraud or fallacies haue not beene practised in that height of cunning, able as it were to foole the simplicity of the former times, to gull the present ages, and to giue precedents to the succeeding seasons scarce to be equall or paralelde. The innocency of the first world strived to excell in vertue, but the poyson of this infected age strives to exceed in vice: happy was that man that in the nonage of the golden world could leaue behinde him any president worthy to imitate, but they hold themselves in this dotage of the Iron age, most remarkable, that can put vpon these times, any imputation which deseruedly can vndergoe the scandall of repproofe: why should else such new impostures be continually hatcht, of which the first and most innocent seasons, were not so much guilty as to know how to entitle them. To these new abuses, we had therefore need of Callepine to deuise

2

false K. and Q. of Fayries.

deuise new names, for as there is no Latine, Greeke, or Hebrew word for Tobacco, but Tobacco, the reason is, it was an herbe not knowne by our Granfathers, nor that customary habit which the world hath lately entertained it: so I may speake of these consonages now in vse, which till now not knowne, I know not how to stile them by any name borrowed from antiquitie, since such new fraudulencies haue but of late daies beene put in execution, but onely by the generall names of consonages, which shall comprehend the roste and manifold branches. I will not stand now to distinguish their scuerall kindes, which for their commonnesse are not worthy my remembrance: neyther is my purpose to trouble you with any long discourse of practises in an other kind, as to kneele downe to playets in Pauls, and leaue a handbasket carelesly by, with Capons legs hanging out, which when a cheater hath cunningly come behinde the Drisant and stolne a way, when he hath ranackt for poultrie, he hath found a child to call him father: neyther being my selfe no gamester, is it my purpose to lay open the consonages at cards, and cheating at dice, in which hee is held no compleat gallant, that is not most dishonestly expert. These and infinite others of the like nature I aduisedly let passe, as communicatings almost quite worue out of breath, and come to circum-

*The cousoning tricks of the
circumstances of riper, newer, and fresher in-
vention, & as I may truly say, now in fashion.*

CHAP. II.

Alice West her first cousonage at Fulliam. 11

There were arraigned at Newgate this last
Sessions, two notorious and infamous
practisers of this new devised Legerdemaine,
one John VVest, & Alice his wife, who dwelt at
Fulliam some foure miles from London. These
vnderstanding that one Thomas Moore of Ham-
mersmith was well possesst, sought by some
strange fraudulent meanes to cheat him of such
money and goods as they knew certainly hee
had in his hie and custodie: and because they
knew common cousonages had for the most
part commondiscowery, and so consequently a
common and ordinary punishment denounced
against offenders in that kinde, they therefore
devised a new forme, in which for the strange-
ness and variety they could hardly be traced:
this woman takes vpon her to bee familiarly
acquainted with the King and Queene of fa-
mes, who that had in their power the command
of inestimable treasure, and growing inward
with a maid servant that belonged to this
Thomas Moore, communicates to her a strange
revelation, how that the fayrie King & Queene
had appeared to her in a vision, saying they had

false K. and Q. of Fayries.

a purpose to bestow great summes of gold vpon this man and this woman, which by her meanes and directions, was vndoubtedly to be compassed: in which atchieuement, there was nothing so necessary as secretie, for if it were reuealed to any saue them three whom it did essentially concerne, they should not onely hazard their good fortune, but incurre the danger of the Fayries, and so consequently lie open to great mishapes, and fearefull disasters. This being by the Maide acquainted to the simple man and his wife, after coniuration of secrecy, they were as greedily willing to receiue the benefit, as fearefull loath to entertaine the punishment, and so their simplicitie begat an easier way to their iugling, which she perceiving, prosecute it to her first deuised purpose, and first intreats for money to performe the due rites of Sacrifice to his great patron the King of Fayries. After them she sends for more to furnish other ceremonies before forgot, still pretending that something or other was eyther neglected, or wanting to the attayning of so inestimable a masse. And the first rites that must be performed, was a very great banquet which must be prepared for this royall King and Queene of Fayries, then all the chamber must be hung with the richest linnen that they had in their possession, which according to their estate was very sufficient: the banquet cost a

The cousoning tricks of the

Pretty summe of money, but all this was no charges in regard it should be returned tenfold, therefore the more they bestowed the more would be their gaines, in so much that their couetous simplicitie so ouerwayed their vnderstanding, that at seuerall times this Circe had enchanted from them the sum of 40 pound: & to encourage them the further, they brought him into a vault, where they shewed him two attired like the King and Queene of Fayries, and by them little Clues and Goblins, and in the same place an infinite company of bags, and vpon them written, this is for Thomas Moore, this is for his wife, but would not let him touch any thing, which gaue him some encouragement, to his almost despairing hope, but still he receiued no profit: yet at last beginning to looke into his estate, and what impossibility there was, he began to doubt some imposture, & thought to acquaint these proceedings to some friend, to whom he might communicate the busines. He was as some think, & as by the sequel it appeared, stroke lame by her sorceries, after which she presently repaired to him, told him his purpose to blab the secrets of the Fayries was come to the eares of Oberon, for which he enraged, had inflicted this punishment vpon him, but at the intercession of the Fayrie Queene, and in hope of his future secrecie she had provided him an oile, with which being bathed

thed, he should instantly recouer, which accordingly hapned, & gaue no greater strength to his limbs then it did growth to his opinion: she therfore vpon disburling of more mony, caused the to buy chests, trunks, nay sacks, halfe tubs & barreles, which she promised the Fairies wold fill with treasure. But though they were carefully prouided, yet they stood empty, & he almost as void of hope, as his vessels of mony, till at length she dꝛue the maid into a dark celler, & by some strong illusion shewed two in strange habits whō she termed the K. & Q. of Fayries, & by the, so much imagined treasure, & the maid iustified before the bench there could not be so little as seuen teene hundred thousand pound, al which this cheatresse affirmed was for her master, but she was not suffered to beare any part of it away because the time was not come, & the ceremonies not yet ended, after performance of which the treasure was to be tendred. To compasse which, she demanded so much money to prouide her necessaries, as she imagined the poore man had of his own, or vpon his credit could borrow: which she receiued, to the summe of foure score pound. And hauing drawen him thus dꝛy, she & her husband fled the town by night, & after liued priuatly in S. Katherine's, where she practised many such colonages as shal be declared hereafter. This was against her proued, the 14 of January at the Sessions, for which she was

The conjoining tricks of the

convict with her husband, and iudged to bee whipt through London, & certain daies to stand on the pillory, which according to her iudgement, hath to the example of all such practisers beene performed, and she yet till further evidence can be brought against her, kept still a prisoner in Newgate.

CHAP. III.

Her second cosonage of a man and his wife, which of them should die first.

Many other of good reputation and quality hath she brought within the compasse of these gulleries, some for their credits sake I forbear to name, others, because they would not call their wits in publike question haue forborne to iustifie manifest truthes against her. One Gentleman amongst the rest, whom by circumstance she gathered did not affect his wife, she so farre perswaded wits him, that hee constantly presumed it lay in her power to tell him which of them should die first: she humoured him, so long, and with such cunning tricks and shifts deluded him, that at sundry times (vpon his owne protestation) she had of him at least three score pound, putting him in hope that she should not outliue this day nor that: but he being bregent to know what to trust to, because he had alreadie bespoken his second wife, she assured him she should die as the last Christmas
Cue

Jarvis and Q. of Fayries.

Que, yet vpon Christmas day she was able to
sup as hote plumbe pottage, and eat as hard
Brawne as the youngest wife betweene East
and West Cheap.

CHAP. IIII.

How she made a Maid in the Strand sit all a cold
night in a garden naked, with a pot of earth in her
lap, promising her it should be turned to gold in
the morning.

A Nother simple maid whom she knew had
hourded the best part of seven yeares wa-
ges out of her good huswifery together, vpon
promise of the greatest part she had, she per-
swaded to sit naked in a garden a whole cold
frostie winters night, with a pot of earth in her
lap, promising that ere morning the Queene of
Fayries should turne it into gold: and in the
meane time, that this poore maid sat there,
this cunning queene ranne away with her
money and her cloathes, and others she hath
couend in the like kinde.

CHAP. V:

How a young man came to her to know when his
master should die.

A Young man came to this cunning woman,
to know when his Master should die, for he
had more then a monthes minde to marry
with

with his Distresse, shee held him long in hand with trifles and Delaies and stil fetcht him off, from time to time, now with a Crowne, then with an Angell, till shee had left his purse as barren as his braine, and so giuing him the slip, left him as meere an Ass as she found him.

CHAP. VI

Of Saylers wiues, that came to her, to know when their husbands should come home.

AND Saylers wiues came ordinarily to her whilst shee liued in Saint Katharines, to know when their husbands would come, that they might freely play the good fellows with their friends: and shee would answere, not of long time, and yet many of them returned, and tooke their wiues napping, with other womens husbands, yet many of these shee deluded, and got from them as much monie as they were able to make or to borrow, and yet could she cunningly, when they were most suspitious of her, put them off with some euasion or other, shadowing all her craft with a kind of simplicitie.

Doore farmers in the Countrie haue paid for her subletie: when monie was scarce, shee would not refuse Pigges, Capons, Geese, or Cozne, but accept of any these Countrie-commodities, for which she would promise that all
the

false K. and Q. of Fayries.

the Fayries like so many Court-pages should be at their Service.

But to giue the greater grace to these fraudulenties, she hath the opinion to be halfe of the greatest part of a witch : without which, it were impossible that by any outward management, she could goe through so many things as shee hath done, but especially in and so neere London, where the people for the most part assume to vnderstand most things, way to know all : nor hath she laid traines for Gentiles, Maides, and the simple sort of people, but she hath fetcht off Usurers and Misers, as finely, as they fetch off young heires that are newly come to their lands. As for example.

CHAP. VII.

How shee couened a Gentlewoman of much gold and siluer.

A Gentlewoman ancient of great fortunes, and therefore should be wise, but assuredly wealthy, and therefore commonly couetous, to her shee brings a smooth compacted tale, from the Queene of Fayries, who ment to bestow on her a large quantity of coyne, which to the Gentlewoman appearing at the first little better then ridiculous, shee told her shee would for her better satisfaction shew her apparantly that there was no impossibilitie in anything that

The cousoning tricks of the

that she had before suggested, and for instance
quoth she, lend me from you a faire white Dia-
per Napkin, and two new shillings, and you
shall see what by the helpe of the Fayrie
Queene, I can make of them. The Gentlewo-
man did so. She presently making her beleene
she had tyed the two shillings in the corners of
the Napkin, by a cunning iugling sight con-
ueighed into their places two twentie shilling
peecees, vnknowne to the Gentlewoman, who
tooke them to be no other, then those shillings
she had before deliuered her: she perswades her
to locke them safe in a Chest, of which shee her
selfe would keepe the key, Confirming to her,
that within sixe dayes or there abouts, by the
power of the Fayrie Queene, they should turne
to double Soueraignes. The six dayes expired,
and according as shee had promised when they
came to open the Diaper Napkin, they found
instead of two King Iames his shillings, two
faire Elizabeth Soueraignes: this put the
Gentlewoman in some hope, and three or foure
times after the same fashion shee had deluded
her, till she had iugled from her some foure score
pound in monie: Intimating vnto her, that
within such a time; euery shilling in Silver
should be made twentie in go'd. But when she
could not extract moze from her, without pal-
pable discoverie of her notozious cheating, shee
tooke away the Napkin and Monie, and left
her

false K. and Q. of Fayries.

her to a solitarie Repentance of her late greedy avarice. Infinite cosonages of lesse nature she hath beene tainted with.

CAAP. VIII.

How the same *Alice West* vsed to tell Prentises, Maides, and such ignorant people, their fortunes.

SHE had by the porch and doore to her house a little Closset, where she might heare every word spoken at the doore. When a yong fellow came to know what successe hee should haue, at what trade hee should best thriue: or when any Maide came to know where any thing was lost: or when any woman came to know, whether her husband should burie her, or shee him, or in the like kind, shee would send one to the doore by sundrie interrogatories to vnderstand their businesse, as whether they had lost a Spooone, or come to vse her aduise in Physicke, or if a Maide came to know who should be her husband, or a Batcheler whether hee should haue such a Maide, or such a widow. Which no sooner in her Closset she heard, but she would straight come to the doore, giue them entertainment, bid them welcome, and tell them that the Queene of Fayries had told her their businesse, and so recite to them particularly euery thing that shee had Ensedropt in her Closset: which gaue such credit to her profession that the simple people did simply beleue

C

The coufoning tricks of the

leeue, that it should happen which out of the invention of her braine she did extemporally devise for them, by which subtiltie, shee purchast to her selfe great opinion of her skill, and many large summes of monie.

CHAP. IX.

How two men came to know where a Spooone was lost, and how they spared their monie.

IT happened, that a Silver Spooone being lost in a Gentlemans house of good worship: and the Butler, because it was through his negligence, was enioyned to pay for it, hee called to one of his fellowes, and early in the morning, came to this womans house, purposing for his better satisfaction, to know a private Theefe, and for his owne better iustification, to give her ten groats, but to shew him the fellow or to helpe him to his Spooone againe. And comming betimes in the morning they found her scolding and clamouring with her Neighbours, because some rude fellow had in knauerie plaid the beast, iust vpon the threshold of the doore: and amongst other exclamations quoth shee, If I did but know, what man, woman, or child, had done mee this wrong, I would bee seuerely reuenged for so grosse an iniurie. The Butler apprehending her wordes, come saith he to his fellow, wee will goe backe, and saue this mony: why quoth his fellow? because

false K. and Q. of Fayries.

cause saith hee, if this wise woman cannot tell who hath plaid the beast vpon the threshold of the doore, which is so neare her, how can shee tell who hath my Spooone which was stolne so farre off: and so returned the same way they came, without adding losse to losse, or shooting a second arrow after the first, which they assuredly knew was lost.

CHAP. X.

How this woman changed with a Grocer a Bastard for a Sugar-loafe.

IT is well knowne, in a populous place about the Citie, and not farre from Smithfield, that this woman attired like a Ma: d-servant, came into a Grocers shop with a handbasket, to cheapen a Sugar-loafe. The Grocer being a Batcheler and without a wife, it was her purpose belike to helpe him to an Heyre: shee tels him that her Mistresse, being a Gentlewoman of good account that dwelt by, would bestow such a quantity in Barbarie Sugar, and after some colourable circumstances and long beating the price, they grew to a conclusion: when say (quoth she) Ile leaue my handbasket, til I but step over the way to know whether my Mistresse like the price and Sugar, and returne Instantly: the Grocer Suspecting nothing lets her goe quite a way with the Sugar-loafe, and takes his Lute, for hee much delighted

The coujoning tricks of the

lighted in that Instrument, and playes to a yong Bastard that shee had left in her hand-basket. which Bastard the Grocer was glad to keepe.

CHAP. XI.

How one of her companions serued a Gentleman.

A Gentleman, a tearmer that came to the Citie to receiue monie, being a good companion and hauing good store of Crobones, she griewing hee should spend any of his monie abroad, and not in her friends house, thought to take a speedy order for it. It happened the Gentleman being a little troubled with a Cozne vpon his toe, she perswaded him to haue it cut: and brought one of her owne deuillish consorts to whome shee pretended to haue extraoꝝdinarie skill, in that art, who at the first cut, cut him to the bone, so that the Gentleman was not able to goe oꝝ stand: shee then tooke vpon her to play the Surgeon, but she so ordered the matter that in two Tearmes hee was not able to pull on a boot, noꝝ stir from his lodging, till his monie was almost quite wasted.

CHAP. XII.

How shee coujoned another woman of many rings and iewels.

There dwelt in one of the best parts of the citie a woman of no meane substance, if her wit had been answerable to her wealth, oꝝ her vnderstanding to her peares. This Coujoner meaning

false K. and Q. of Fayries.

meaning to lay a pit-fall to entrap her, inquires secretly what Country woman shee was, how educated, what was the name of her first and second husband, where she had dwelt, how long in a place, how many children she had, how many were living, how many sonnes, how many daughters, with a particular of their names, & how they were bestowed, how many sisters she had then, & who she best respected. All which she had privately learned of an old Char-woman that frequented the house much, & whom she had corrupted to her purpose. This done, and many other instructions learned, she cunningly gets a letter to be drawne from a deere friend of this Gentlewoman's in the Country, whom she much respected: and attiring her selfe like a plaine Countrywoman inquires for such a Gentlewoman, knocks at her doore, & to many a counterfeit courtesie delivers it to her. Which when the Gentlewoman had read, & understood the contents she intreats her to sit downe, sends for wine, & desires her of further conference. For that letter contained a particular character of this counterfeit, that she was extraordinarily skilled in Magick, could tell fortunes, could tell where any treasure was hid, & obtaine it; besides could advise her in many other things that were for her future good, of which the letter said the Gentleman her friend had made perfect and sound triall. After some discourse a far off, shee began to tell her shee was neuer in London till then

The cousoning tricks of the

then, yet could she discours of many things ſhe had priuately hapned to her, tel her what rooms ſhe had in her houſe, and how they were furniſht, what cheſts, what rings, what ſtones in the, & how faſhioned (for al theſe things & more ſhe had priuately learned before) which put the Gentlewoman in an vndoubted belief of her cunning. She next deſired to ſee her hand, & at ſight of it ſmilingly ſaid ſhe was boꝝn to many good fortunes, and much beloued of the King of fayries: then ſhe asked her if ſhe was not boꝝne in ſuch a place, had not had ſo many husbands, and had not ſo many children ſo beſlowed. To which the ſimple Gentlewoman answered yea: with great admiration how ſhe that neuer ſaw her till then, and was neuer in the City before, could make ſuch a true relation. And now ſhe begins in her heart to eſteeme the care and loue of her friend, and ſo to giue way to this womans purpoſe. Then ſhe told her what ſuters ſhe had, and ſmilingly ſaid, and in ſooth, and tell me true doe you not loue ſuch a man beſt? ſhe answered yea, ſtill more and more amazed at her cunning. True ſaith ſhe, your ſeller is bauted thus and thus, and there is ſuch a corner in it is there not? to all which ſhe answered yea: vndoubtedly, then quoth ſhe (but I muſt ſweare you to ſecrecie) there is much gold & ſiluer hid in that place, but vnleſſe you proteſt to keepe it cloſe to your ſelfe, and neuer to call my name in queſtion, I will not

false K. and Q. of Fayries.

not undertake the taking of it by. Protestations past on both sides, the one for the undertaking, the other for concealing: she had her then shew her two such rings of such a fashion, and a chaine which lay in such a casket, for with them she must present the king of fayries, whom she must of necessity use in this business. The Gentlewoman said she had such iewels indeed, and in such a place, & greatly admired at her skill that could know so much. And to be briefe after many cunning gloses & private whispering in her eare of such passages as had before hapned her, this cunning quene so far perswaded her, that for that time she only took survey of the place where the gold was hid. The second time she cleanly carried away the chaine, rings, and certainemoney which was to provide things necessary to such ceremonies: but the third time till she was publickly arraigned for many other felonages, she could neuer let eye of her. Many ridiculous & frivolous impositions in this business she put by this gentlewoman, which for modesty sake I am willing to conceale, as to sit looking so many houres crosse legd towards the East, And so long another way: that her predecessor so famous for cheating the Tripewife, in Newgate market, could neuer equall, much lesse exceed her in these new devised tricks of legerdemaine.

CHAP. XIII.

Another done by one of her companions.

This companion comes to a young shopkeeper per

The coujoning tricks of the

keeper, a goldsmiths prentise, one that had the charge of moze wealth then wit, & desire to speake with him, & in smoth language so insinuated, that she made him beleue the Queene of Fayries did most ardently doat vpon him: the fellow liking the motion, askt how he might see or speak with her, why thus quoth she, bring foure of the fairest silver and gilt peeces of plate in thy masters shop into such a close by S. Giles, & place them at the foure corners of the close, & they shal not onely be turned to perfect gold, but there thou shalt confer with the amorous Queen of Fayries. The yong mā the next morning got vp early according to his houre, went to the close, & placed the plate at the foure corners still expecting the Queen of Fayries, & then this Alice West had plast in a ditch foure of her consozts, who came forth, & with stones and brickbats, so beat the pooze prentise, that he ran home, and forgot to take his plate with him: his corage was cold for meeting þ^e Q. of Fayries.

There remains many other that are not yet reuealed, but at their next aratiment when they come to light, we will acquaint you with the projects which appeare to me as things necessary to be divulged, because that such as haue not saue in these pittalls, may by this means auoid them, seeing such daily presedents before their eyes of lamentable repentance, wishing withall, that the ancient prouerbe in the Accedence, may in such hereafter be verified.

Happy are they whom other mens harmes do make to beware.

FINIS.

Calcutta 407
12/11/33 P.J.